

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figs. 24 – 26 have been amended and are now provided with uniform drawing lines. The attached Replacement Sheets containing Figs. 24 – 26 replace the original sheets of Figs. 24 – 26.

REMARKS

Claims 14, 15, and 17 – 36 are pending in this application. Claims 14 and 15 are rejected. Claim 14 is currently amended.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of Claims 17 – 36.

The drawings filed on June 22, 2001 are objected to because Figs. 24 – 26 are not provided with uniform drawing lines. Replacement sheets of corrected drawings of Figs. 24 – 26 are submitted herewith.

The title of the invention is objected to for not being descriptive. The title of the invention has been amended to: ELECTRONIC BALLAST HAVING IMPROVED POWER FACTOR AND TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION.

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. The specification has been amended to include the limitation of “ $0 \leq D \leq 1$ ”, as recited in claim 14. The duty cycle D refers to the conduction time of the first switch 2112 of the inverter 2110 (page 15, line 5 of the specification of the present invention). One of ordinary skill in the art would easily recognize that the duty cycle D represents the time period that the first switch 2112 is conductive over the total switching period of the inverter 2110. Therefore, by definition, the duty cycle D is a number that is less than or equal to one, but greater than or equal to zero, i.e., $0 \leq D \leq 1$.

Claims 14 – 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claim 14 has been amended to include the symbol “ \leq ” rather than “ \leq ” per the Examiner’s recommendation. Accordingly, claim 14, and claim 15, which depends from claim 14, should be allowable in view of this amendment.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, allow the claims as amended, and pass this case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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